

Sandy Mush Community Center

Minutes

April 20, 2021

Attending: Amanda Barnes, Jade Barnes, Jim Buckner, Stephanie Buckner, Kevin Campbell, Al Davis, Steve Duckett, Kurt Eckel, Diana Gates, Christopher Jayne, Bruce Larson, John Loyd, Ilsa Myers, Frank Ramirez, Amy McMahan Surrett, Betsy Weinschel. *Sixteen people attended.*

The meeting was called to order by President Christopher Jayne at 6:03 pm.

MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

Minutes. The March Minutes were prepared by Secretary Bruce Larson and distributed by email. **The Minutes were approved as submitted.**

Financial Reports. The March financial reports were prepared by bookkeeper Christine Magnarella Ray of Do Good Books, LLC with input from and oversight by Treasurer Bruce Larson, and distributed by email. **The financial reports were approved as submitted.**

Bruce noted that there was a \$1,100 deficit for the month, which was largely the result of our annual insurance payments, which are paid once a year. He also noted that the 2019-20 Buncombe County Strategic Partnership Grant has been spent out. Significant funds remain to be spent from the 2020-21 BC SP Grant.

NEW BUSINESS

Shade Installation. Amanda Barnes reported. A community member has requested that some shading be installed at the Center so the internet can be used outside the building on sunny and hot days. Christopher noted that a long-term solution is being sought via the site plan under development.

Communication Team. Kevin Campbell reported. Martha Ball, who previously handled many communications-related activities for the Center, has moved from the area and is no longer on the Board. Accordingly, there is a need to ensure that these activities are being managed so that the community events are publicized in a timely way. Among the media that have routinely been used are Facebook and Instagram posts, the website, email, Google Calendar, and the Newsletter. Toward that end, **it was moved, seconded, and approved to create a Communications Team to be headed by Kevin Campbell.** If anyone is interested in being on the Team, please contact Kevin or John Loyd.

New Sign Lighting. Kevin reported. He noted that the newly installed solar-powered lights for the Center's road sign is currently set to go on for three hours after dark. There is a controller that could be used to manage lighting on special occasions.

Christopher noted that he has driven by the sign at night and it just right.

Duke Endowment Project. Al Davis reported. An overview of the project was provided. Big Sandy UMC has been working on this since September 2020 and an application is due in May. Recently a 90-minute meeting was held to discuss the application, which would include the mental (Duke Endowment), the physical (Dogwood Health Trust), and the dietary (WNC Community Foundation). The theme of the project is "How Can We Help Our Senior Citizens?" On Sunday Dr. Heather Kilbourn of the Project will be at BS UMC to help develop a firm proposal statement. Members of the Board are invited to attend the meeting at 12: 30.

2020 990ez Filing Approval. Bruce reported. He noted that the 2020 990ez statement, developed by Christine Magnarella Ray and previously distributed, included financial information for 2016 through 2020. **It was moved, seconded, and approved to submit the statement.**

Bylaw Amendment. Bruce reported. In March, the Board moved to vote on a new Bylaw section—Article V, Section 10—that would provide for a Steering Team. **It was moved, seconded, and approved that Bylaws be amended to include the section.**

ORAL REPORTS AND STATUS UPDATES

Beautification Team. Amanda reported. She noted that Jean Barbara and Kathleen Campbell are stepping down from the Team. Ilsa Myers and Frank Ramirez will be taking over this work. General appreciation was expressed all around, to Jean and Kathleen, and to Ilsa and Frank. Bruce will write a letter of thanks to Jean and Kathleen.

Spring Fling. John Loyd reported. John noted that 4-H will not be participating this year. Since there will be food sales at the event, a \$75 permit is required. It was the sense of the room that the \$75 should be taken from the Event budget.

Rental Team 4-H Discussion. Kevin reported. He noted that Jackie Gillespie would like to use the Gym for its gatherings and use the storage room to the left of the stage for storage. 4-H was welcomed back to the Center. **It was moved, seconded, and approved to provide 4-H with the desired stored and the use of the Gym on a mutually agreeable night.**

Hiring Staff. Kurt Eckel reported. He reviewed the reasons why budgetary provision was made for a new position. Examination of Center needs that it sounds like we need someone who is able to identify volunteers to perform specific tasks as needed. This

would be something akin to a volunteer coordinator. That person would need to have good communication skills.

Board Retreat. Kurt reported. The person who was previously identified to lead the Retreat is now able to do it. The amount for Retreat would remain at \$1,800. **It was moved, seconded, and approved to reengage with the Board Retreat Process consistent with what was previously determined by the Board of Directors.**

The Retreat will be one-half day on a Saturday at a date to be determined. It will begin at 9 am and end at 1 pm.

WRITTEN REPORTS AND STATUS UPDATES

The following reports were received:

- Food Pantry Report—Jean Barbara
- Youth Report—Peggy Baldwin
- Internet Report—Mark Diaz
- Library Report—Jade Barnes

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Kurt asked for an update from Christopher on the work of our landscape architect, Mary Weber, on the site plan. Christopher indicated that he would soon reach out to her for further information.

With the passage of the Steering Team amendment, Christopher will be meeting with Amanda Barnes, Vice President, and Bruce Larson, Secretary and Treasurer, at a time to be determined after tonight's meeting.

Betsy Weinschel asked about shelving for the Library. \$400 was previously approved by the Board for that purposed.

Kevin noted that he has not heard back from Red Oak Recovery regarding the additional information requested by the Board in relation to the possibility of the Center becoming a designated emergency shelter for a women's recovery program in Fairview.

There being no more announcements or comment, the meeting was adjourned by Christopher at 7:48 pm.